GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4482
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007
SALE OF COTTON
Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether farmers of Orissa are forced to sell cotton below Minimum Support Price (MSP) in the areas where Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) does not procure cotton;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Orissa has requested the CCI, Kolkata to expand procurement of cotton in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action so far taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) to (c): No information is available about the observation that the farmers of Orissa are forced to sell cotton below Minimum Support Price in the areas where CCI does not operate. The CCI is purchasing the entire quantity of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) grade kapas at minimum support price without any quantitative limit with a view to help cotton farmers and moreover in order to avoid distress sales, CCI is also purchasing kapas three stages below FAQ grade. The Government of Orissa had asked for active participation of CCI to safeguard interest of the farming community and to prevent private traders from playing dubious activities. Accordingly the CCI had made all the requisite arrangements for purchase of cotton in six centres at Rayagada, Gunupur, Karlapada, Utkala, Kantabhanji and Jogimunda. The representative of CCI had also attended the daily auction conducted in the market yard in the purchase centre and also circulated the MSP rates for FAQ grade kap as along with necessary deductions for below FAQ grade..